

P17946.P01

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Attorney Docket No.

P17946

Total Pages

Inventor(s) or Application Identifier
Junichi IIDA

Title: NETWORK FACSIMILE APPARATUS

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

 05/20/99
 09/31/95
 05/20/99

ADDRESS TO:

 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Box Patent Application
 Washington, DC 20231

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 24]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the Invention
 - Cross References to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) [Total Sheets 11]
- ☒ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 3]
 a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy) ☐ Unexecuted
 b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
 (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
 [Note Box 5 below]
 i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
 Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)
 named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2)
 and 1.33(b).
- ☐ Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked)
 The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy
 of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered
 as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application
 and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
- ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)
- Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
 (if applicable, all necessary)
 a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy
 b. ☐ Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
 c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies

8. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) ☐ Power of Attorney
10. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
11. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
14. ☐ Small Entity Statement(s) ☐ Statement filed in prior application,
Status still proper and desired
15. ☐ The prior application is assigned of record to _____
16. ☒ Foreign priority claimed
 a. ☒ Claim of Priority
 b. ☒ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
17. ☐ Other: _____

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior Application No. _____/_____, filed _____.
19. ☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This application is a ___ continuation-in-part, ___ continuation, ___ division, of Application No. _____/_____, filed _____.

Address all future correspondence to Customer No. 7055 at the present address of:

 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
 1941 Roland Clarke Place
 Reston, VA 20191
 (703) 716-1191

 5/20/99
 Date

 Leslie J. Dwyer
 Signature Reg No. 33,329

 Bruce H. Bernstein, Reg No. 29,027
 Typed or Printed Name

SPECIFICATION

66050-236460

NETWORK FACSIMILE APPARATUS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a network facsimile
5 apparatus capable of performing transmission and reception of
facsimile data and e-mail data connecting to a PSTN and a
network such as the internet or LAN.

Description of the Related Art

10 Recently, it has been performed to connect a personal
computer, work station, FAX server or the like to a network
in order to transmit and receive an e-mail and facsimile and
to browse homepages.

FIG.1 illustrates a system structure of the case of
15 performing facsimile transmission and reception using a FAX
server. The reception operation at a client machine (personal
computer) will be described next. FAX modem 1001 receives a
call from the PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) and
fetches image data to transmit to FAX server 1002. FAX server
20 software operating at FAX server 1002 receives the image data,
and stores the image data as an image data file at file server
1003 through the network. At this point, the storage of
facsimile received data is finished.

To fetch the received image data into client machine 1004,
25 a user starts a dedicated application at client machine 1004
and reads out the image data from file server 1003 through the
network.

Further, a method of reusing facsimile received data by combining an internet FAX and a WWW server has been recently proposed. The method utilizes the function of the internet FAX which converts data received from the PSTN into an e-mail.

5 FIG.2 illustrates a system structure of the case of performing facsimile transmission and reception using an internet FAX and a WWW server. The reception operation at the client machine will be described.

10 Image data received at internet FAX 1101 via the PSTN is converted into an attached file format to an e-mail at internet FAX 1101 and is transmitted to WWW server 1103 as an attached file of e-mail.

15 The e-mail with the attached file transferred from internet FAX 1101 is received at e-mail server 1102 via a network. The e-mail with the attached file received at e-mail server 1102 is transferred to WWW server 1103 that is a destination again via the network.

20 WWW server 1103 stores the attached file of e-mail as image data to link to a homepage for facsimile reception. The storage of facsimile received data is finished at this point.

25 In order to fetch received data into client machine 1104, a user starts a WWW browser at client machine 1104 and accesses to the homepage for facsimile reception at WWW server 1103. The user reads out an image data file at client machine 1104 via the network from WWW server 1103.

However, in the system using the above described FAX server, since image data is transferred two times through a

network, i.e., from the FAX server to the file server and further from the file server to the client machine until the client machine receives facsimile received data, there is a problem that network traffic is increased.

5 Further, there is another problem that the system requires cost for a dedicated application which is needed to transmit and receive facsimile data at a file server for storing facsimile received data and a client machine.

In addition, in the conventional system using the above-
10 described FAX server and WWW server, since image data is transferred three time through a network, i.e., from the internet FAX to the e-mail server, further from the e-mail server to the WWW server, and furthermore from the WWW server to the client machine until the client machine receives
15 facsimile received data, and image data attached to e-mail has a data capacity approximately 1.3 times that of binary data, there is a problem that the network traffic is further increased.

Further, there is another problem that the system
20 requires cost for a workstation as a WWW server and a dedicated application which is needed to open received data as a homepage.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a network
25 facsimile apparatus which is able to decrease network traffic caused by data transmission.

Another object of the present invention is to provide

a network facsimile apparatus which is able to transmit and receive image data through a network with an inexpensive configuration without requiring dedicated hardware and software.

5 The network facsimile apparatus of the present invention has a facsimile section which transmits and receives an image via the PSTN, a network communication section which transmits and receives data via a computer network, a storage having a storage area at which received data including an image received
10 at the facsimile section and the data received at the network communication section are stored and another storage area at which a structured document is stored, and a web server which transmits the received data or the structured document stored in the storage to the computer network.

15 According to the present invention, the network facsimile apparatus is able to issue a homepage of the apparatus own toward outside, which enables the network facsimile to communicate information including image data with an external terminal using the home page. Further, since the
20 present invention enables the network facsimile connected to the network to have a WWW server function, it is possible to use the internet inexpensively with a plain configuration without requiring a dedicated terminal for operating server software.

25 In addition, the network facsimile apparatus of the present invention has a reception list generating section which generates a structured document of reception list indicative

of document information of the received data stored in the storage, and the web server transmits the structured document of reception list to the client via the computer network in response to a request from the client.

5 According to the above configuration, since it is possible to obtain data received and stored at the network facsimile apparatus using WWW browser software at a network client, it is thereby possible for a user of a personal computer who does not have a facsimile apparatus to receive facsimile
10 image data using the existing software.

 In addition, the network facsimile apparatus of the present invention holds stored file information which is generated in document structure markup language such as HTML, transmits the file information to a terminal which accesses
15 to the apparatus with a URL address, and transmits or prints a predetermined file or transmits the file to another terminal when receives an instruction from the terminal.

 According to the above processing, it is possible for a network client to easily reuse data once stored. For example,
20 it is possible for a user of a personal computer who does not have a facsimile apparatus to transmit facsimile image data using the existing software.

 In addition, the network facsimile apparatus of the present invention transmits data, which is transmitted from
25 the terminal connected to the network facsimile apparatus by a network, to another terminal by facsimile.

 According to the above processing, it is possible to

directly transmit data, which the network client manages, by facsimile.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 The above and other objects and features of the invention will appear more fully hereinafter from a consideration of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein one example is illustrated by way of example, in which;

10 FIG.1 is a configuration diagram of a system using a conventional FAX server;

 FIG.2 is a configuration diagram of a system using a conventional internet FAX and WWW server;

15 FIG.3 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a configuration of a network facsimile apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention;

 FIG.4 is a configuration diagram of a network system using the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

20 FIG.5 is a flowchart to explain a reception operation at the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

 FIG.6 is a flowchart to explain an operation for transmitting data stored at the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment to a client machine;

25 FIG.7 is a diagram illustrating a content of FAX reception list at the network facsimile apparatus according

to the above embodiment;

FIG.8 is a diagram illustrating a content of a homepage at the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment

5 FIG.9 is a flowchart to explain an operation for transmitting data stored at the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

10 FIG.10 is a flowchart to explain an operation for transmitting a document file of the client machine after storing the file at the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment; and

15 FIG.11 is a flowchart to explain an operation for transmitting status information generated at the network facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment to the client machine.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

20 The embodiment of the present invention will be described below in detail with reference to drawings.

FIG.3 illustrates a schematic block diagram of a network facsimile apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention. In FIG.3, CPU 1 controls over the entire apparatus. ROM 2 is a read only memory to store programs, in which each program for HTML file generating section 11, WWW server section 12, e-mail communication section 13 and TIFF conversion section 14 is stored. RAM 3 is a memory used for data of programs stored

in ROM 2. RAM 3 is also used to store e-mail software with the software e-mail address held and URL addresses. External storage 4 is a storage such as a hard disk and used to store compressed image data and HTML files. Scanner 5 scans image data of, for example, an original. Printer 6 performs printing of received image data or scanned imaged data. A user is able to perform operations such as an instruction to scan image data and an enter of destination address using panel section 7. Compression/expansion section 8 performs expansion of received image data and compression of scanned image data. FAX/speech communication section 9 performs facsimile communication and speech communication connecting to a PSTN. Network control section 10 performs the internet communication connecting to a network. HTML file generating section 11 generates, for example, a list of received image data as a HTML file which is readable on a homepage. WWW server section 12 performs communications with WWW browser software in accordance with HTTP protocol to exchange homepage data (HTML files). E-mail communication section 13 performs transmission and reception of e-mail via a network, while functions as an e-mail server. TIFF conversion section 14 converts coded facsimile data and document file data into TIFF format.

FIG.4 is a diagram illustrating a system configuration in the case of using a network facsimile apparatus according to the embodiment of the present invention. In FIG.4, network facsimile apparatus 201 is connected to the PSTN, while has

a network interface. Network facsimile apparatus also has the WWW server section and the e-mail communication section as illustrated in FIG.3. Client machine 202 operates a WWW browser to browse a homepage.

5 The reception operation of the network facsimile apparatus configured as described above will be described according to a flowchart in FIG.5.

At step (hereinafter abbreviated as ST) 301, it is decided whether the reception is performed via the PSTN or the
10 internet. At ST302 to ST307, when the reception is performed via the internet, e-mail communication section 13 receives the e-mail. When attached data is image data in TIFF (Tag Images File Format) that is a standard format for an image file, e-mail communication section 13 stores the image data at external
15 storage 4 providing a file name such as, for example, "mail0001.tif". When attached data is speech data, e-mail communication section 13 stores the speech data at external storage 4 providing a file name such as, for example, "audio0001.wav". When the reception is performed via the PSTN,
20 FAX/speech communication section 9 receives imaged data or speech data. When the received data is image data, FAX/speech communication section 9 requests TIFF conversion section 14 to convert the coded data into TIFF format. FAX/speech communication section 9 provides a file name such as, for
25 example, "fax0001.tif" to the TIFF-converted received data to store at external storage 4. When the received data is speech data, FAX/speech communication section 9 converts the speech

data into digital data and provides a file name to the speech data to store at external storage 4. In addition, it is possible to talk with a receiver after buzzing at the network facsimile apparatus depending on the setting.

5 HTML file generating section 11 manages a reception list table, illustrated in FIG.7, stored in external storage 4. At ST308, when HTML file generating section 11 receives a file name, which is provided to the received data, from FAX/speech communication section 9 or e-mail communication section 13,
10 HTML file generating section 11 adds the file name to the reception list. In addition, at this stage, a document number that is provided in order of storing, a title of e-mail notified from e-mail communication section 13 (in the case of facsimile reception, a fixed character sequence such as "G3FAX received
15 document), data registered to the reception list table, and sender name are also stored. HTML file generating section 11 next updates a HTML file used in displaying the reception list on the browser, based on the updated reception list table. Specifically, HTML file generating section 11 reads the HTML
20 file that is prepared in advance to display a FAX reception list page illustrated by 602 in FIG.8 and writes a character sequence indicative of, for example, document number that is newly stored management data in the reception list table illustrated in FIG.7 in order to edit. "0001" that is a
25 character sequence of the edited document number is tagged with , thereby the character sequence "0001" is linked to a file of fax0001.tif that is the received file.

At ST309, when received data is speech data, the processing is finished.

The network facsimile apparatus is able to set printer 6 to print the received image data instantly after the received image data is stored in external storage 4.

At ST310, it is judged whether or not the setting is the instant printing. When the setting is not the instant printing, the reception operation is finished. When the setting is the instant printing, at ST311 to ST312, compression/ expansion section 8 decompresses the image data stored in TIFF format at external storage 4 to output to printer 6. Printer 6 prints the decompressed data.

The operation of transmitting data received and stored at the network facsimile apparatus to a client machine will be described next according to a flowchart in FIG.6. At ST 401, the network facsimile apparatus is in a stand-by state until a homepage address (URL address) is entered. At ST402, the client machine connected to a network starts a WWW browser (homepage browsing software) and enters the URL address of the network facsimile apparatus to access the homepage. In the accessed network facsimile apparatus, at ST403, WWW server section 12 initiates the processing through network control section 10, and transmits homepage data (HTNL file) stored in external storage to the WWW browser of the client machine. According to the aforementioned processing, at ST404, the homepage of the network facsimile is displayed at the client machine, for example, as illustrated by 601 in FIG.8. The

network facsimile apparatus awaits at ST405 until next selection is performed.

At ST406 to ST408, when a user selects "FAX reception list" among from displayed data, the network facsimile apparatus transmits the HTML file of FAX reception list linked to the character sequence of "FAX reception list" to the client machine, and the FAX reception list is thereby displayed on the WWW browser at the client machine as illustrated by 602 in FIG.8. The network facsimile apparatus awaits at ST409 until next selection is performed.

At ST410 to ST412, when a user selects a file to display among from the FAX reception list, the network facsimile apparatus transmits an image data file. The image data (for example, file0001.tif) is displayed on the WWW browser at the client machine using the helper application to display the TIFF file as illustrated by 603 in FIG.8.

The aforementioned example describes about the case of displaying FAX received data. However, when a speech file is selected, the speech data linked to the speech file is played back at a speaker of the client machine. The speech data includes speech data that the user records at a receiver of the network facsimile apparatus besides the speech data received from outside, and it is possible to link these speech data to the homepage and also to transmit toward outside.

The next description illustrates the operation in the case where the WWW browser at the client machine performs transmission of the network facsimile apparatus. As the

transmission operation, there are two cases of transmitting data stored at the network facsimile apparatus and of transmitting a document file at the client machine.

The case of transmitting data stored at the network facsimile apparatus is first described with a flowchart in FIG.9. At ST701, the network facsimile apparatus is in a stand-by state until a homepage address (URL address) is entered. At ST702, the client machine connected to the network starts the WWW browser (homepage browsing software), and enters the URL address of the network facsimile apparatus to access to the homepage. At ST703, in the network facsimile that receives the access, WWW server section 12 initiates the processing through network control section 10, and transmits homepage data (HTML file) stored in external storage 4 to the WWW browser at the client machine. According to the aforementioned processing, at ST704, the homepage of the network facsimile is displayed at the client machine (601 in FIG.8). At ST705, the network facsimile apparatus awaits until next selection is performed.

At ST706 to ST708, a user selects an object file on the page illustrated by 602 in FIG.8, and pushes "send" button. At ST709, the network facsimile apparatus transmits a page for instructing transmission (not shown). At ST710, the page is displayed at the client machine. At ST711 to ST713, when the user designates a destination facsimile number or destination e-mail address to perform a transmission instruction, WWW server section 12, to which the transmission instruction is

provided, starts a CGI program for transmission with a CGI interface and performs the transmission processing.

The next description illustrates the case where the network facsimile apparatus transmits a document file stored at client machine with reference to a flowchart in FIG.10. At ST801 to ST802, a user of the client machine opens an object document file using, for example, word processor software, and designates the network facsimile as a printer and performs the same instruction as printing.

At ST803 to ST805, network control section 10 at the network facsimile apparatus receives transmission data from the client machine, instructs TIFF conversion section 14 to convert the data into TIFF format, provides a file name to the converted file and store the file at external storage 4. Further, network control section 10 notifies the HTML file generating section of the storage of the file.

At ST806, HTML file generating section that receives the notification adds the file information to a reception list table illustrated in FIG.7, while updates the HTML file for displaying the file information on the browser.

As described above, the document file at the client machine is temporarily stored at the network facsimile apparatus. The network facsimile apparatus then transmits the temporarily stored data in the same way as transmitting the stored data illustrated in FIG.9. In the case of only printing without transmitting, it is possible to transmit the data to printer 6 to print.

The above-description illustrates the case of storing transmission data temporarily at external storage 4 to transmit. However, it may be possible for a user to enter a facsimile number or e-mail address when instructs printing so
5 that the send program is started by the CGI interface immediately after the transmission data is converted into TIFF format in order to transmit the data.

The next description illustrates the operation in which a user performs the device setting of the network facsimile
10 apparatus using the WWW browser at the client machine. The homepage of the network facsimile apparatus provides an enter page adapted to enter various device settings such as user setting and destination registration. A user of the client machine starts the WWW browser, accesses to the homepage of
15 the network facsimile apparatus and displays the page for performing object device setting. For example, when the user opens the setting page concerning a send, designates a fine as a character size, and pushes " setting" button, WWW server section 12 executes the setting program linked to the "setting"
20 button with the CGI interface to perform the setting of the network facsimile apparatus.

The next description illustrates the operation in which the network facsimile apparatus generates the device status in HTML file with reference to a flowchart in FIG.11. At ST901,
25 scanner 8, printer 6, panel section 7 and FAX/speech communication section 9 always directs changes of own respective status.

At ST902 to ST903, when a state change occurs, for example, paper is out of stock at printer 6, printer 6 notifies HTML file generating section 11 of change content.

At ST904, since HTML file generating section 11 holds
5 in advance many HTML files to display status (device status) information and GIF files to display a status with a picture, HTML file generating section 11 updates the contents of HTML files and changes GIF files whenever a status changes.

When a user of the client machine refers to the status
10 (device status) information, at ST905 to ST912, the user starts the WWW browser, displays the homepage of the network facsimile and selects respective status information on scanner 8, printer 6, panel section 7 and FAX/speech communication section 9 to display, which enables the user to know the latest device status
15 at any time.

In addition, the network facsimile apparatus updates the content of HTML files and changes GIF files at the time a device status changes even though a user of the client machine is accessing to the homepage of the network facsimile, the user
20 is able to know a device status at real time.

The present invention is not limited to the aforementioned operation. It may be possible to generate other information such as facsimile communication log and facsimile apparatus manual in HTML file in order to enable a
25 user to read the information with the WWW browser.

The present invention is not limited to the above described embodiments, and various variations and

modifications may be possible without departing from the scope of the present invention.

This application is based on the Japanese Patent Application No.HEI 10-274920 filed on September 29, 1998,
5 entire content of which is expressly incorporated by reference herein.

HEI 10-274920

What is claimed is:

1. A network facsimile apparatus capable of communicating using both a telephone network and a computer network, comprising:

5 a facsimile section which transmits and receives an image via the telephone network;

a network communication section which transmits and receives data via the computer network;

10 a storage which has a storage area in which received data including an image received by said facsimile section and the data received by said network communication section are stored and another storage area in which a structured document is stored; and

15 a web server which transmits the received data or the structured document stored in said storage to the computer network.

2. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a reception list generating section which generates a structured document of reception list
20 indicative of document information of the received data stored in said storage, and said web server transmits said structured document of reception list to the client via the computer network in response to a request from the client.

3. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said
25 web server reads out the received data requested from the client from said storage to transmit to the client.

4. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, said

apparatus further comprising:

a memory in which a CGI program is stored, wherein said CGI program is to execute transmission processing by notifying said facsimile section or said network communication section of received data and a destination to transmit said received data; and

a CGI interface which starts said CGI program to execute the transmission processing when said web server receives a transmission request with a telephone number or an e-mail address from the client.

5. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a printer which prints said received data, and said web server reads out the received data requested from the client from said storage to output to said printer.

6. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 5, wherein said network communication section inputs data received from said client directly to said printer.

7. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said network communication section stores data received from said client in said storage as received data.

8. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said web server provides a document number of received data which the client request to transfer and an e-mail address of a terminal which is a transfer destination to said network communication section, and said network communication section transmits the received data which is read out from said storage

using said document number to said e-mail address of the terminal by e-mail.

9. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said web server provides a document number of received data which the client request to transmit and a telephone number of a terminal which is a transfer destination to said facsimile section, and said facsimile section places a call to said telephone number of the terminal and transmits the received data which is read out from said storage using said document number to said telephone number of the terminal.

10. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a setting section which changes setting information in which a specific operation content is predetermined, said storage holds a structured document of said setting information, and said web server transmits said structured document of said setting information to the client via the computer network in response to a request from the client, and instructs change data of said setting information requested from the client to said setting section.

11. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a status management section which generates a structured document of status information indicative of a status of each section in the network facsimile apparatus to store at said storage, and updates said structured document of status information whenever said status of each section changes, and said web server transmits said structured document of status information to the client via the computer

network in response to a request from the client.

12. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 11, wherein said apparatus further comprises a scanner which scans an original and a printer which prints data, and said status information
5 includes statuses of said scanner, said printer and said facsimile section.

13. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus comprises a telephone section which transmits and receives speech data via said telephone network, and said
10 received data includes speech data.

14. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 2, wherein said reception list generating section generates separately a structured document of reception list indicative of document information of received data received by said facsimile section
15 and another structured document of reception list indicative of document information of received data received by said network communication section.

15. The network facsimile apparatus of claim 2, said apparatus further comprising:
20 a converter which converts an image other than TIFF (tag image file format), which is attached to said received data, into data in TIFF;

means for providing a file name respectively to received data which is not stored yet at said storage and TIFF converted
25 image data to store in said storage; and

means for notifying the file name of the data stored in said storage to said reception list generating section.

16. A method for browsing received data stored at a network facsimile apparatus, said method comprising:

receiving data by a facsimile communication or a network communication;

5 storing the received data at a storage;

generating a structured document of information of received data stored in the storage in order to enable a browser at a client to browse; and

transmitting said structured document of information of
10 received data to the client in response to a request from the client.

17. The method of claim 16, said method further comprising:

receiving an instruction for transmitting received data to a terminal from a client; and

15 transferring received data instructed by the client to a designated destination.

18. The method of claim 16, said method further comprising;

transmitting a structured document of setting information in which a specific operation content is
20 predetermined to a client in response to a request from the client;

receiving change data for said setting information from said client; and

changing a device setting according to the received
25 change data.

19. The method of claim 16, said method further comprising;

updating a structured document of status information

indicative of a status of each section in a network facsimile apparatus whenever said status of each section changes; and

transmitting said structured document of status information to a client via a computer network in response to

5 a request from the client.

00443 254460

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The network facsimile apparatus is able to communicate using both a public switched telephone network and a computer network, and has a facsimile section which transmits and receives an image via the public switched telephone network, a network communication section which transmits and receives data via the computer network, a storage which is to store received data and a structured document, a web server which transmits received data or a structured document to the computer network, and a reception list generating section which generates a structured document of reception list indicative of document information of received data.

FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

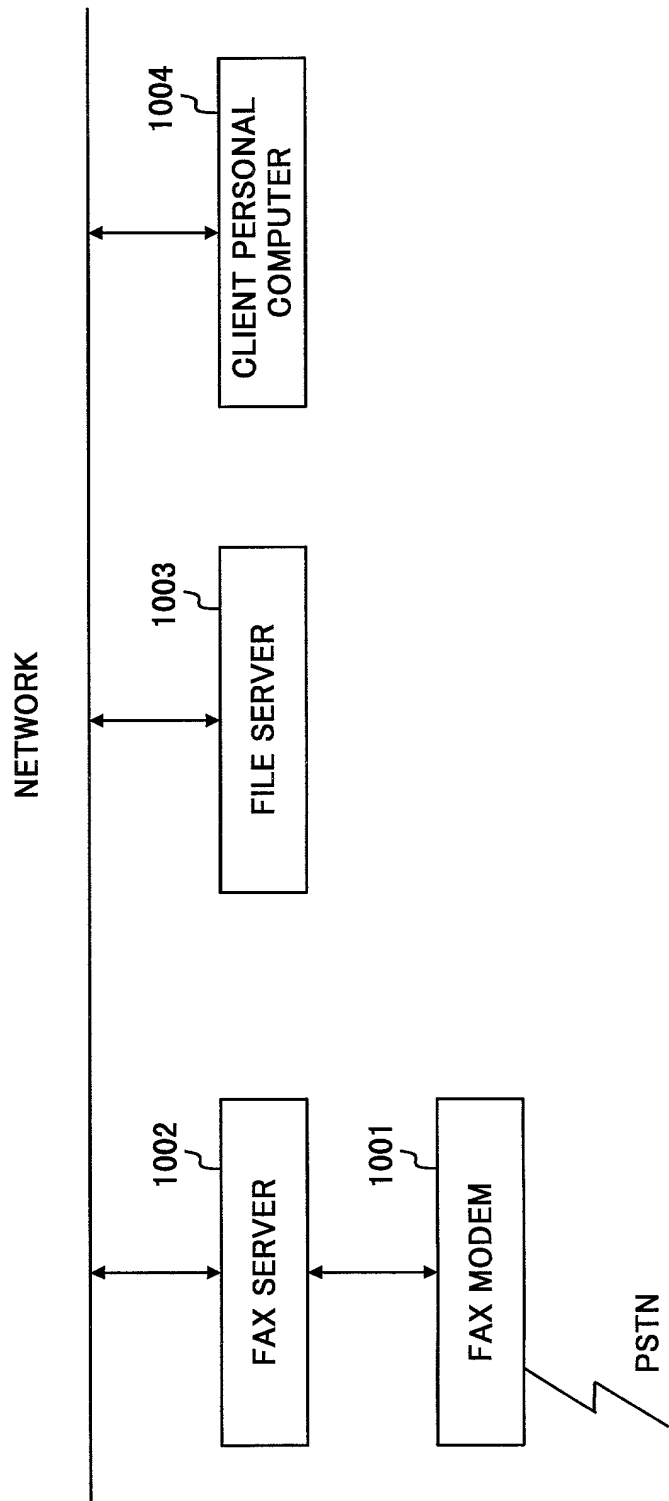


FIG. 2

PRIOR ART

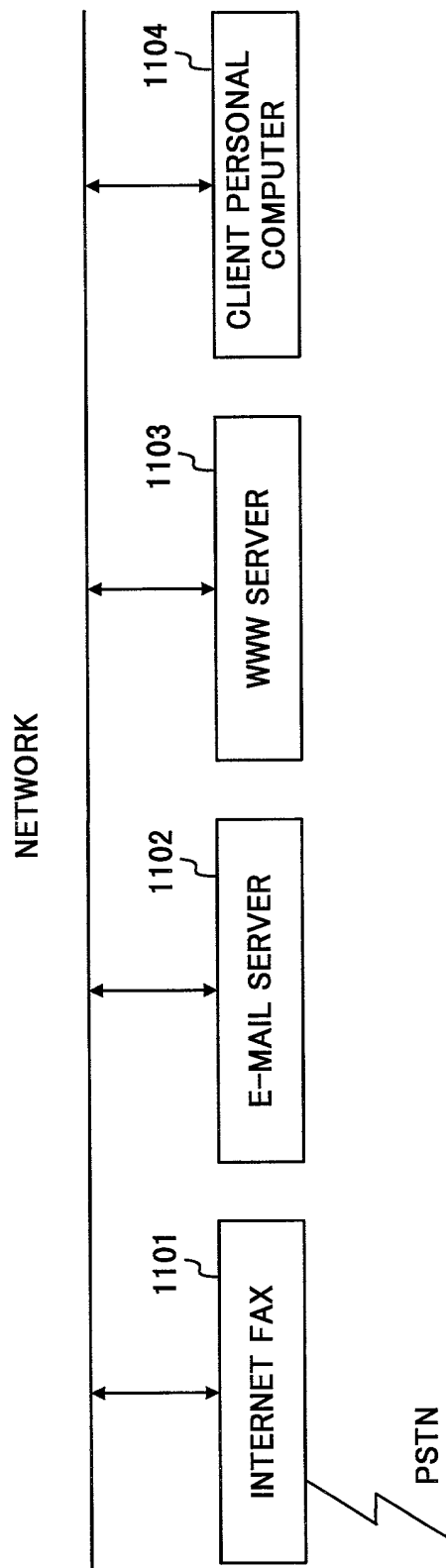


FIG.3

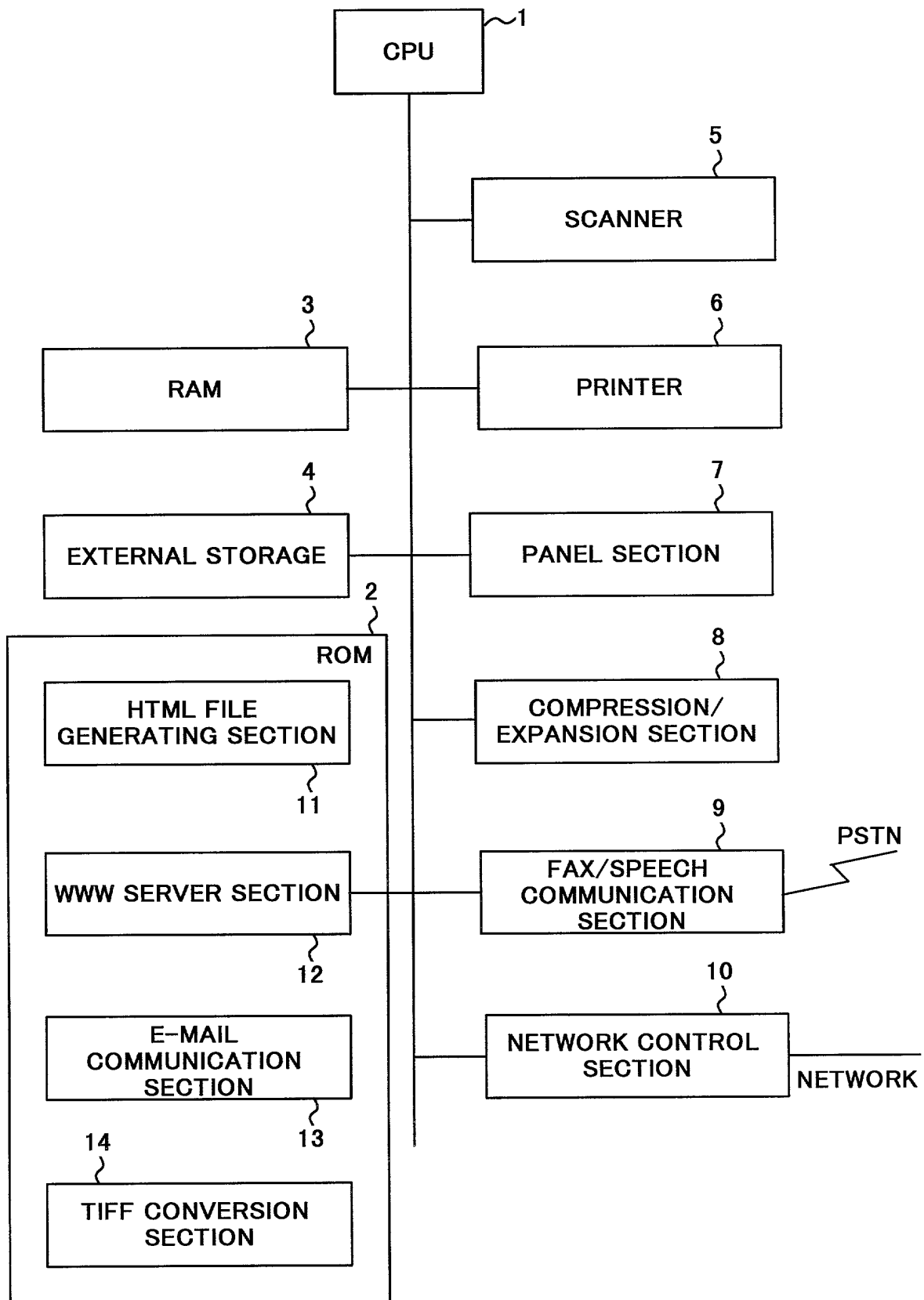
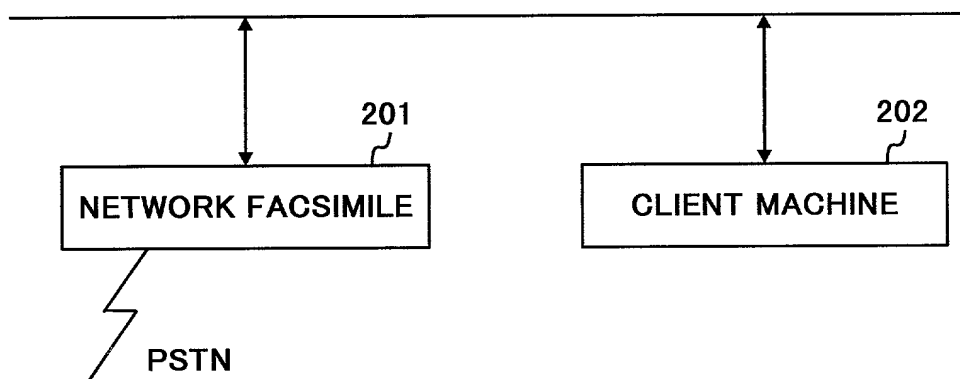


FIG.4



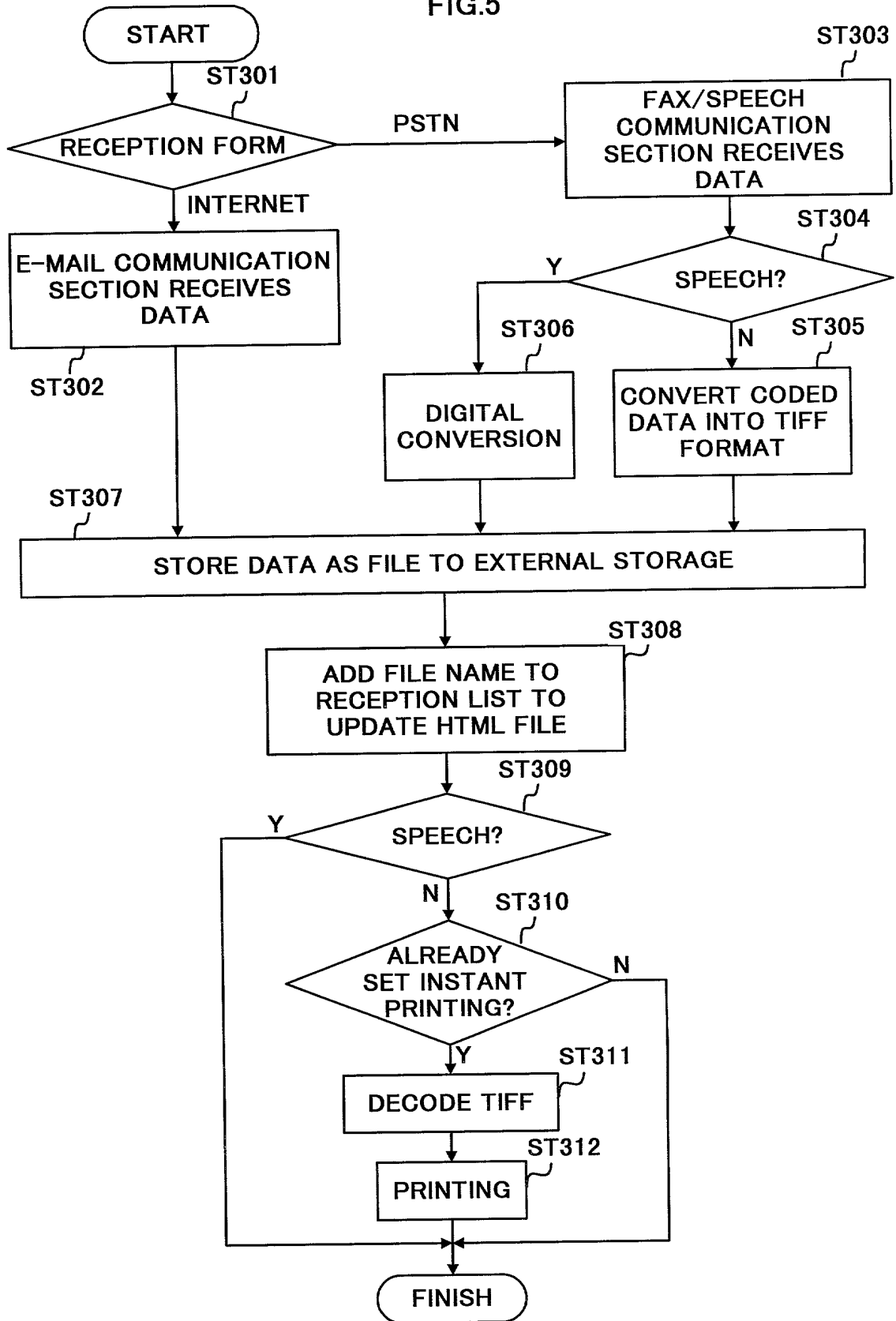


FIG.6

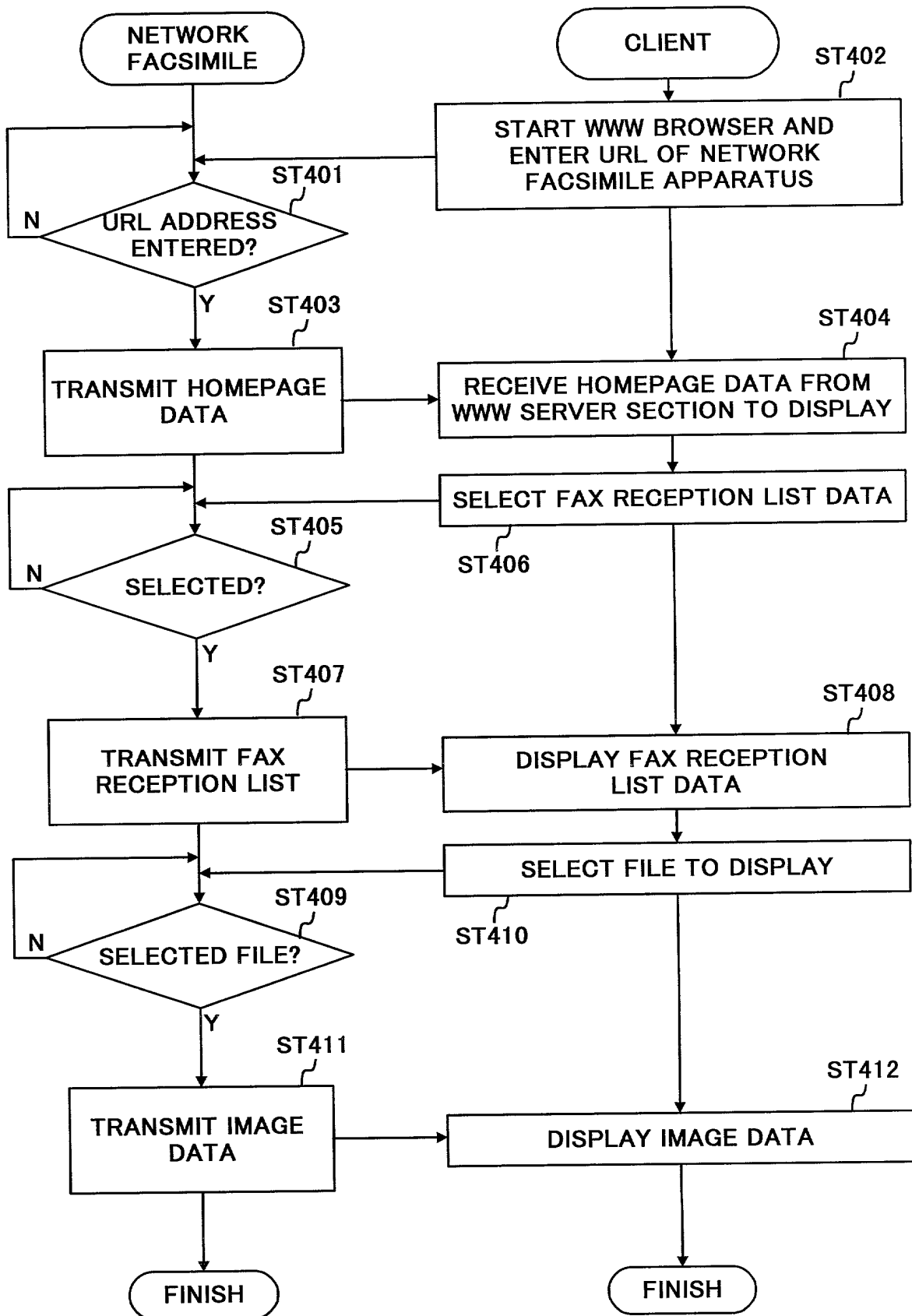


FIG. 7

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT FILE NAME	REGISTERED DATE	SENDER	TITLE
0001	FAX0001. TIF	1998. 08. 03 14:45:31	03--1234--5678	G3FAX RECEIVED DOCUMENT
0002	MAIL0001. TIF	1998. 08. 05 11:30:15	IFAX@abc. co. jp	MAP
0003	AUDIO0001. TIF	1998. 08. 13 19:15:20	03--7789--1122	TELEPHONE SPEECH

FIG. 8

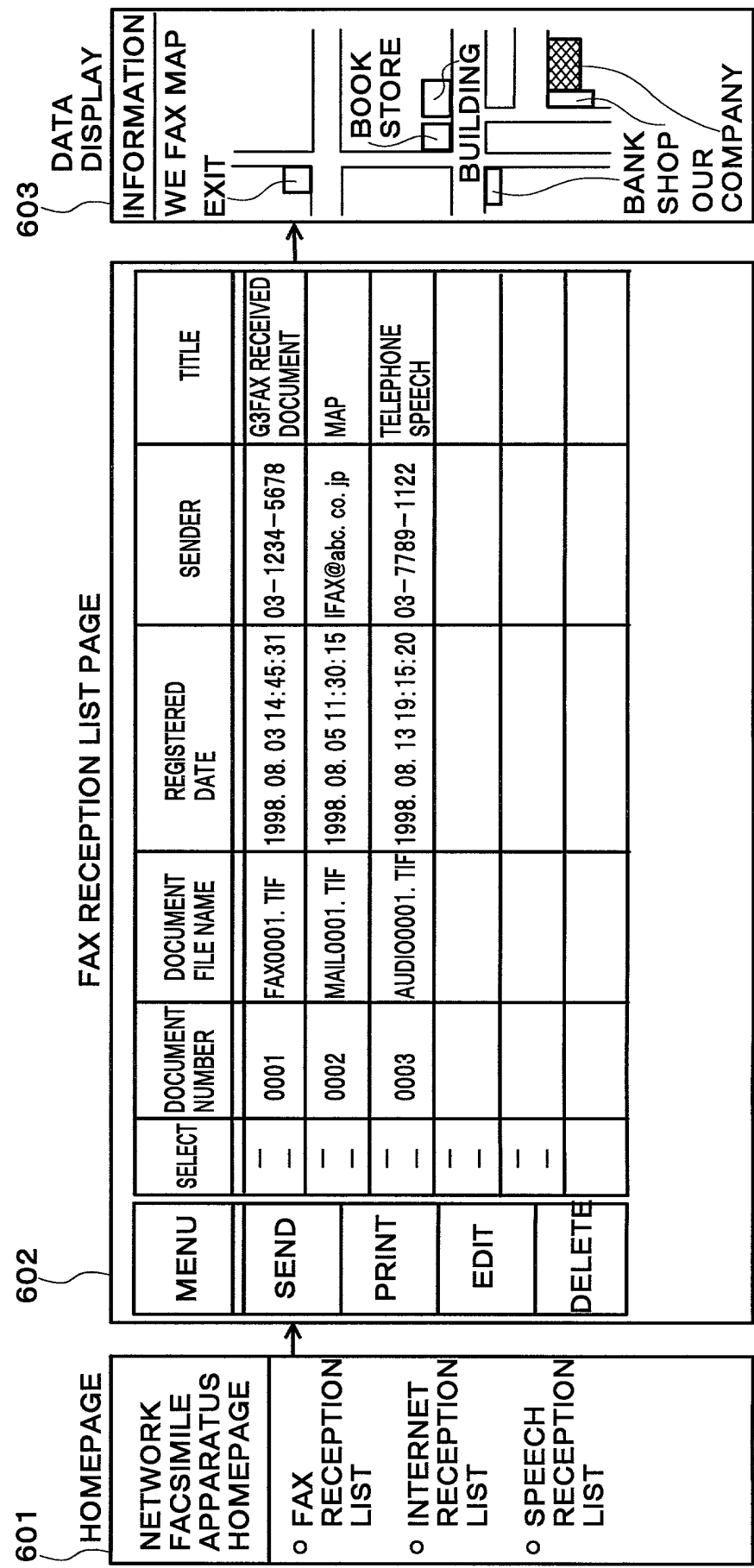


FIG.9

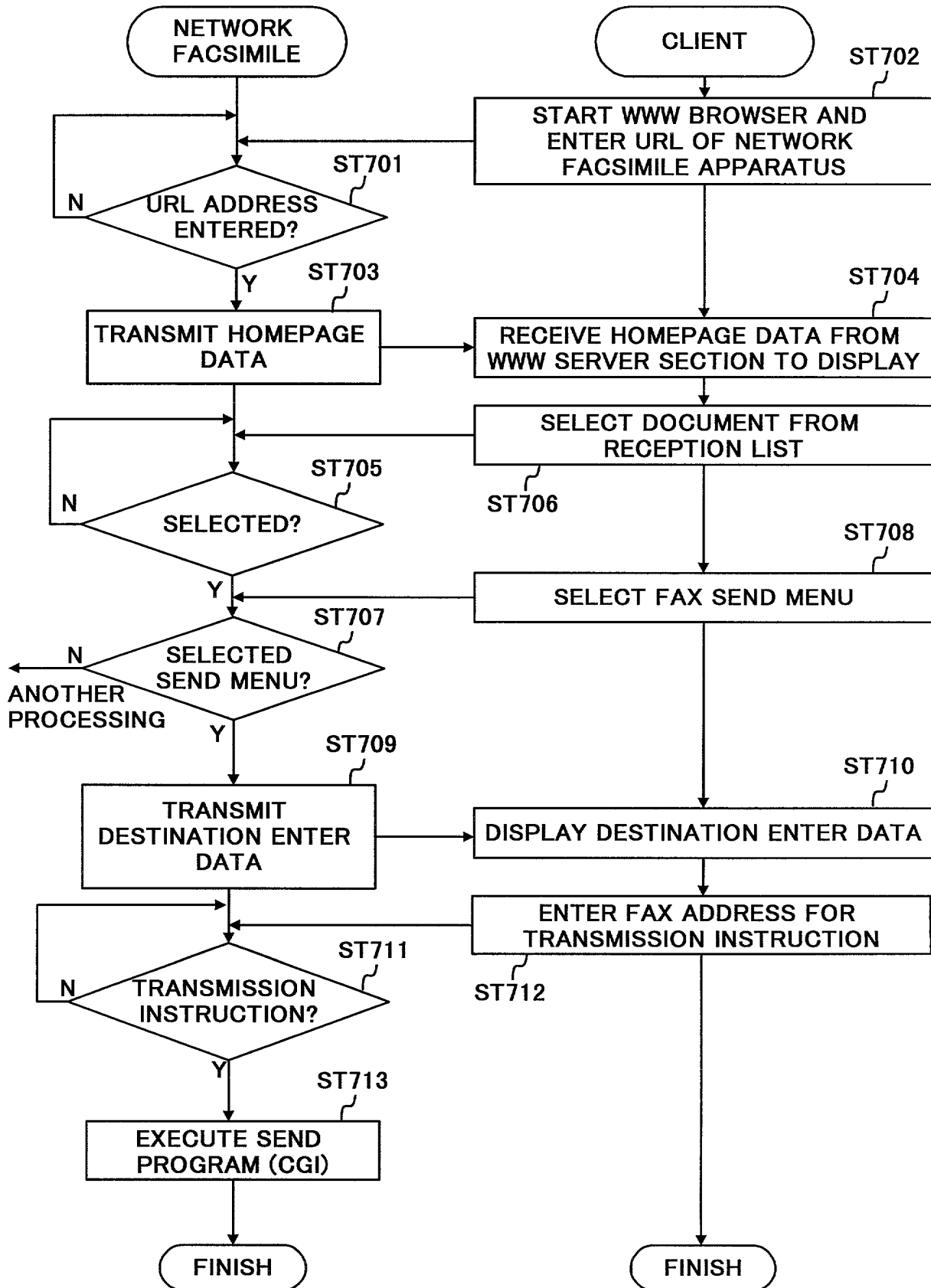


FIG.10

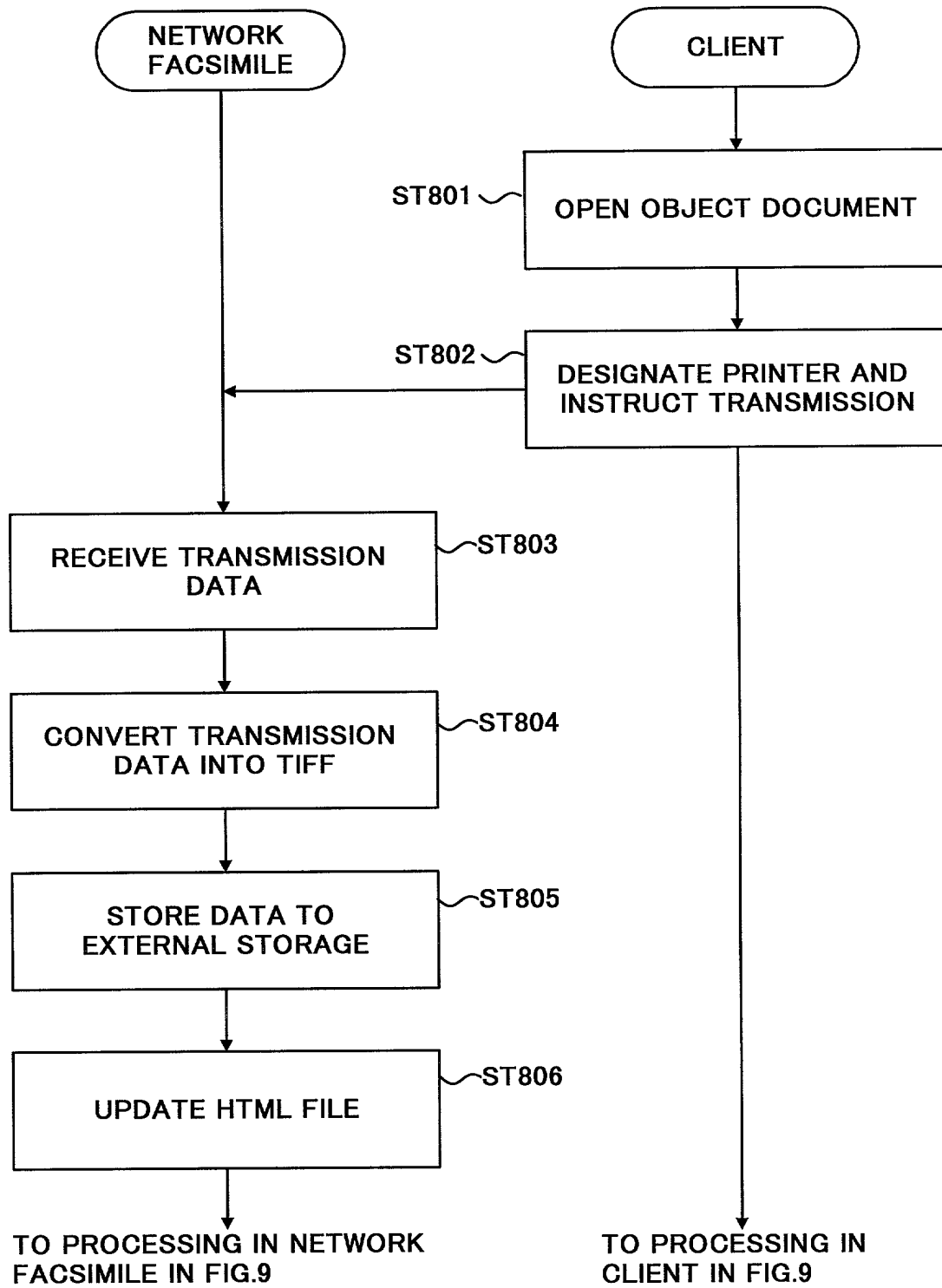
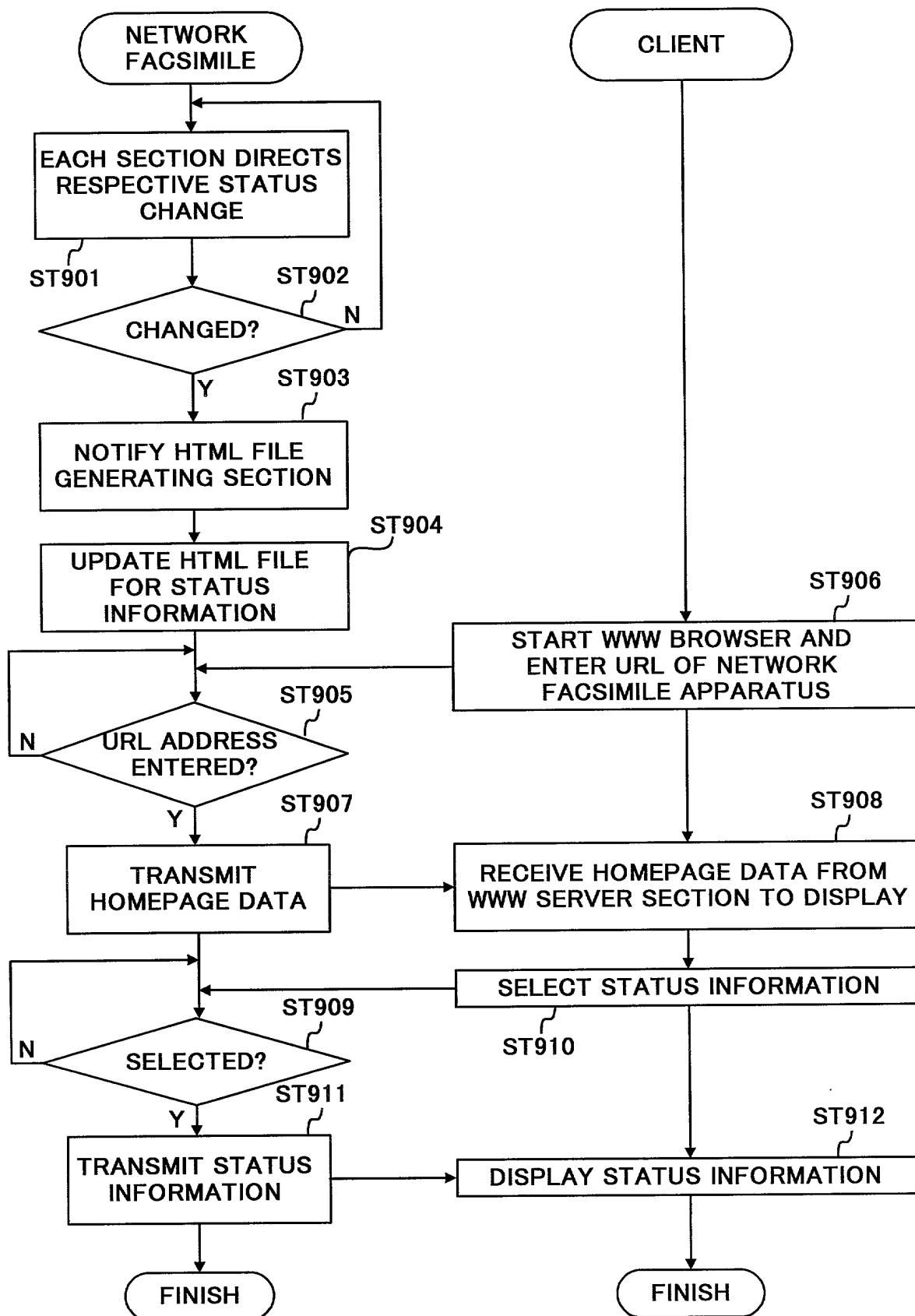


FIG.11



Declaration and Power of Attorney For Utility or Design Patent Application

特許出願宣言書

Japanese Language Declaration

私は、下欄に氏名を記載した発明者として、以下のとおり
宣言する:

私の住所、郵便の宛先および国籍は、下欄に氏名に続いて記載したとおり
であり、

名称の発明に関し、請求の範囲に記載した特許を求める主題の本来の、
最初にして唯一の発明者である(一人の氏名のみが下欄に記載されている
場合)か、もしくは本来の、最初にして共同の発明者である(複数の氏名が
下欄に記載されている場合)と信じ、

その明細書を

(該当するほうに印を付す)

☒ここに添付する。

☐ _____ 日に 出願番号

第 _____ 号として提出し、

_____ 日に補正した。

(該当する場合)

私は、前期のとおり補正した請求の範囲を含む前記明細書の内容を検討
し、理解したことを陳述する。

私は、連邦規則法典第37部第1章第56条に従い、本題の審査に所要の
情報を開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

私は合衆国法典第35部第119条(a-d)項又は第365条(b)項に基づく、下
記の外国特許出願又は発明者証出願、或いは第365条(a)項に基づく、少な
くとも米国以外の1ヶ国を指名したPCT国際出願の外国優先権利益を主張
し、更に優先権の主張に係わる基礎出願の出願日前の出願日を有する外国
特許出願、又は発明者証出願或いはPCT国際出願を以下に明記する:

Prior foreign applications
先の外国出願

JP10-274920	JAPAN	29/September/1998
(Number) (番号)	(Country) (国名)	(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願の年月日)
_____	_____	_____
(Number) (番号)	(Country) (国名)	(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願の年月日)
_____	_____	_____
(Number) (番号)	(Country) (国名)	(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願の年月日)
_____	_____	_____

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated
below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is
listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names
are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for
which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

NETWORK FACSIMILE APPARATUS

the specification of which

(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____ as

Application No. _____

and was amended on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of
the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended
by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to
the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code
of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States
Code §119(a-d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent
or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international
application which designated at least one country other than the
United States of America, listed below and have also identified
below, by checking the "No" box, any foreign application for patent
or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having
a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Priority claimed
優先権の主張

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes あり	No なし
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes あり	No なし
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes あり	No なし

Japanese Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

☐ その他の外国特許出願番号は別紙の追補優先権欄にて記載する。

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

私は、合衆国法典第35部第119条(e)項に基づく、下記の合衆国仮特許出願の利益を主張する。

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Number)
(番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
出願の年月日

(Number)
(番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
出願の年月日

(Number)
(番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
出願の年月日

☐ その他の合衆国仮特許出願番号は別紙の追補優先権欄にて記載する。

☐ Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

私は、合衆国法典第35部第120条に基づく下記の合衆国特許出願、又は第365条(c)項に基づく合衆国を指名したPCT国際出願の利益を主張し、本願の請求の範囲各項に記載の主題が合衆国法典第35部第112条第1項規定の様様で、先の合衆国特許出願又はPCT国際出願に開示されていない限度において、先の出願の出願日と本願の国内出願日又はPCT国際出願日の間に有効となった連邦規則法典第37部第1章第56条に記載の特許要件に所要の情報を開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(出願の年月日)

(現況) (Status)
(特許済み、係属中、放棄済み) (Patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(出願の年月日)

(現況) (Status)
(特許済み、係属中、放棄済み) (Patented, pending, abandoned)

☐ その他の合衆国又は国際特許出願番号は別紙の追補優先権欄にて記載する。

☐ Additional U.S. or international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

私は、ここに自己の知識にもとずいて行った陳述がすべて真実であり、自己の有する情報および信ずるところに従って行った陳述が真実であると信じ、さらに故意に虚偽の陳述等を行った場合、合衆国法典第18部第1001条により、罰金もしくは禁錮に処せられるか、またはこれらの刑が併科され、またかかる故意による虚偽による陳述が本願ないし本願に対して付与される特許の有効性を損なうことがあることを認識して、以下の陳述を行ったことを宣言する。

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

私、下記署名者は、ここに記載の米国弁護士または代理人に本出願に関し特許商標庁にて取られるいかなる行為に関して、同米国弁護士又は代理人が、私に直接連絡なしに私の外国弁護士或いは法人代表者からの指示を受け取り、それに従うようここに委任する。この指示を出す者が変更の場合には、ここに記載の米国弁護士又は代理人にその旨通知される。

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from either his foreign patent agent or corporate representative, if any, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

Japanese Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

委任状: 私は、下記発明者として、下記に明記された顧客番号を伴う以下の弁護士又は、代理人をここに選任し、本順の手続きを遂行すること並びにこれに関する一切の行為を特許商標庁に対して行うことを委任する。そして全ての通信はこの顧客番号宛に発送される。

顧客番号 7055

現在選任された弁護士は下記の通りである。

Neil F. Greenblum
Bruce H. Bernstein
Roger P. Glass
James L. Rowland
Arnold Turk

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the attorney(s) and/or agent(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that Customer Number.

CUSTOMER NUMBER 7055

The appointed attorneys presently include:

Reg. No. 28,394
Reg. No. 29,027
Reg. No. 30,841
Reg. No. 32,674
Reg. No. 33,094

Address: **GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.**
1941 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE
RESTON, VA 20191

直接電話連絡先 : (名称および電話番号)

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
(703)716-1191

唯一のまたは第一の発明者の氏名	Full name of sole or first inventor Junichi IIDA
同発明者の署名 日付	Inventor's signature Date <i>Junichi Iida</i> 30/Mar/1999
住所	Residence Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa Japan
国籍	Citizenship Japan
郵便の宛先	Post Office Address 3-1-21-403, Gumisawa, Totsuka-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 245-0061 Japan
第2の共同発明者の氏名 (該当する場合)	Full name of second joint inventor, if any
同第2共同発明者の署名 日付	Second Inventor's signature Date
住所	Residence
国籍	Citizenship
郵便の宛先	Post Office Address

(第六またはそれ以降の共同発明者に対しても同様な情報および署名を提供すること。)

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)